

**RAUL RUIZ, M.D.**

36TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0536**

November 21, 2019

Regional Administrator Mike Stoker  
Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Regional Administrator Stoker,

I am requesting that the EPA host a community meeting at the earliest possible convenience to provide information directly to community members affected by high levels of arsenic in the drinking water at the Oasis Mobile Home Park in Thermal, California for which the EPA issued an Emergency Order on August 28, 2019. I ask that the meeting take place at a time and place that allows a maximum number of residents to attend and speak freely about their experience.

Since the issuance of that order, my office has consistently heard from constituents who are frustrated and confused regarding the mobile home park's compliance with the terms of the EPA's order. In fact, the EPA issued a letter to park ownership alerting them that they were in violation of the August 28 order after the community reported that their rent was increased by \$100 and replacement water was difficult to obtain. In addition, they shared pictures of signage with misleading information and threats of eviction.

By appearing at a community meeting, the EPA will be able to directly disseminate critical information to residents about the safety of their water as well as hear first hand many of the reports my office has received regarding the non-compliance of the park ownership. These complaints include the distribution of replacement water below the required number of gallons, limited availability to retrieve replacement water, occasional absence of replacement water, and water samples bearing strong chemical odors and/or discoloration.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for helping protect the residents of my district from public health hazards such as the presence of arsenic in drinking water. Being able to drink clean water and breath clean air is not a privilege, but a right for all individuals in our country. I look forward to confirming a meeting date and continuing to work together on this critically important issue to the residents of the Oasis Mobile Home Park.

Sincerely,

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress